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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

We remember, O gracious God, those who need a special measure of Your grace and protection. We recall the needs of those who do not benefit from the support and love of family and must find their own way through the uncertainties of life. We pray for those whose lives are disrupted and torn apart by the conflicts in our world even as we support all those who work for reconciliation and peace. We remember those whose days are filled with struggles for the basic essentials of life and for those who have little hope. Fill their lives, O God, with the fullness of Your spirit that they may be blessed by Your presence and receive new hope by Your Word. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. CLAYTON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair announces that consistent with clause 9 of rule XIV, statements and rulings of the Chair appearing in the RECORD will be a substantially verbatim account of those words as spoken during the proceedings of the House, subject only to technical, grammatical, and typographical corrections.

Without objection, the permanent RECORD of January 18 at pages 301 and 303 will reflect this policy.

There was no objection.

CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(Mr. BOEHNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, our Contract With America states: On the first day of Congress, a Republican House will: force Congress to live under the same laws as everyone else, cut one-third of committee staff, and cut the congressional budget.

We have done that.

In the next 84 days, we will vote on the following 10 items:

No. 1, a balanced budget amendment and line-item veto;

No. 2, a new crime bill to stop violent criminals;

No. 3, welfare reform to encourage work, not dependence;

No. 4, family reinforcement to crack down on deadbeat dads and protect our children;

No. 5, tax cuts for families to lift Government's burden from middle income Americans;

No. 6, national security restoration to protect our freedoms;

No. 7, senior citizens' equity act to allow our seniors to work without Government penalty;

No. 8, Government regulation and unfunded mandate reforms;

No. 9, commonsense legal reform to end frivolous lawsuits; and

No. 10, congressional term limits to make Congress a citizen legislature.

This is our Contract With America.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCINNIS). The Chair announces that today we will have 10 1-minutes per side. Any further 1-minutes will be at the conclusion of business today.

GUILTY UNTIL PROVEN INNOCENT

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, if you are arrested for mass murder and the FBI has videotapes of your mass murder and the FBI has 100 nuns as eyewitnesses and the FBI has the Mormon Tabernacle Choir as eyewitnesses and the FBI has the Waltons and Mr. Rogers as eyewitnesses and they said you killed 100 people, you are innocent until proven guilty. But if you and your grandma and your grandpa go to court on a tax difference of \$5,000, they have to prove they are innocent because they are guilty under the laws of this country. Unbelievable.

H.R. 390 that the Republicans helped last year will change that. If it is good enough for the Son of Sam, it is good enough for mom and dad. And let me say this, JOHN, more Americans support H.R. 390 than any other bill before the Congress.

I am asking for your help to cosponsor H.R. 390. If it is good enough for the Son of Sam, it is good enough for grandma and grandpa. Think about it.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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